

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 14639 010032Z
ACTION OES-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4672

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 14639

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, MX, AIDAC

SUBJECT: POPULATION: US ASSISTANCE TO MEXICO FAMILY
PLANNING EFFORTS

FOR AMBASSADOR GREEN, OES - PASS TO SENATOR INOUE
FROM THE AMBASSADOR

AS YOU KNOW, THE VERY HIGH POPULATION GROWTH RATE OF
MEXICO IS AN AREA OF URGENT MUTUAL CONCERN BETWEEN THE US
GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO. NOT ONLY DOES IT
CONTRIBUTE TO DIFFICULTIES IN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOP-
MENT IN MEXICO BUT IT ALSO HAS A DIRECT IMPACT ON THE PUSH
OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO THE US. I HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO
DISCOVER THAT THE PRESENT MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO SEEN
POPULATION/FAMILY PLANNING AS AN AREA OF UTMOST PRIORITY.
SINCE TAKING OFFICE DECEMBER 1, 1976, THE GOVERNMENT OF
PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO HAS WORKED INTENSIVELY ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF A FAR-REACHING, INNOVATIVE AND HIGHLY
COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PLAN. MY STAFF
HAVE PLAYED ACTIVE ROLES IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE IN THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THAT PLAN AND HAVE WORKED OUT CAREFUL AND
COMPREHENSIVE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT
WHEREBY AID FUNDS CAN BE CHanneled THROUGH INTERMEDIARY
ORGANIZATIONS ON AN ACCEPTABLE BASIS TO THE MEXICANS AND
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WHICH WILL HELP MOVE THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM FORWARD
SOONER AND FASTER THAN MIGHT BE THE CASE IF IT HAD TO
AWAIT GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO FUNDS DURING THIS TIME OF
ECONOMIC DIFFICULTY.

I AM ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS TO PROVIDE RAPID AND EFFECTIVE
FUNDING SUPPORT TO HELP THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT'S

NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PLAN SO THAT THEY CAN MOVE RAPIDLY FORWARD SIX MONTHS TO ONE YEAR EARLIER THAN MIGHT BE THE CASE IF US FUNDS WERE NOT AVAILABLE. AN AID NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS IS PRESENTLY LODGED IN THE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. THIS NOTIFICATION CONTAINS FUNDS FOR SUPPORT OF THE MEXICAN ACTIVITIES THROUGH FPIA (FAMILY PLANNING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE), AND DAI (DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.) PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT APPROVAL OF THIS NOTIFICATION IS BEING QUESTIONED BY A MEMBER OF YOUR STAFF.

THE ISSUE WE FACE IS WHETHER OR NOT WE WILL PROVIDE FUNDS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO THROUGH APPROPRIATE PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP THE MEXICANS MOVE THEIR FAMILY PLANNING EFFORTS FORWARD. GIVEN THE AREAS OF STRESS AND DIFFICULTY IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH MEXICO, LOGIC WOULD LEAD US TO SUPPORT IN A SUBSTANTIAL MANNER THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO CONTROL POPULATION GROWTH THROUGH THE NATIONWIDE PROVISION OF FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES. I ASK YOU TO EXAMINE THIS ISSUE ON AN URGENT BASIS AND URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE TO THE POPULATION/FAMILY PLANNING EFFORT OF MEXICO. LUCEY

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